

Application No.: 10/797,347

Docket No.: MOLLO 3.0-001

IN THE DRAWINGS

Attachment: Replacement Sheets FIGS. 1-14.

REMARKS

This amendment is filed in response to the Official Action mailed September 20, 2005. In view of the following remarks and amendments, reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections and Notice of Allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, Applicant extends his gratitude toward Examiner Lindsey for the courtesies exhibited during the telephonic interview with the undersigned on October 26, 2005. During the interview, the features of claim 1 were discussed along with the substance of U.S. Patent No. 3,381,308 issued to Feinberg ("Feinberg"). No agreement was met as to the allowability of claim 1 with respect to the *Feinberg* reference. Notwithstanding the comments of the undersigned with respect to the patentability of claim 1, in which the undersigned maintained the assertion that *Feinberg* does not teach the claimed elements, Applicant has elected not to further pursue the rejected claim 1 in the present application. Applicant has also elected not to further pursue the remaining rejected claims in the present application. Rather, Applicant has presented claims including only previously allowed subject matter, and reserves the right to file one or more continuation applications directed at the subject matter of the rejected claims.

In that regard, Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 27-52 are allowable as filed. Applicant also notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 6, 14-17, and 21 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten the objected-to claims in independent form, such that each is believed to be in an immediate condition for allowance. In addition, Applicant has amended many of the rejected claims

to depend from allowable claim 2, rather than rejected, and now canceled, claim 1. Each of those claims is believed to be in a condition for allowance.

As discussed above, Applicant has submitted replacement drawing figures herewith. With respect to paragraph 1 of the Detailed Action, Applicant notes that the presently submitted replacement figures are not color drawings, and a petition under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(a)(2) is not required. With respect to paragraph 2, it is respectfully submitted that the replacement sheets provided herein obviate the drawing rejection under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) as the replacement drawings show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. It is also submitted that the original drawing sheets, which were submitted in a very high resolution, showed each feature, such that no new matter has been added by way of these drawing replacements. As evidenced by the published application, it is regrettable that the clarity of the drawing figures may have been significantly reduced during the Patent and Trademark Office's scanning process.

With respect to paragraph 3 of the detailed action, Applicant has amended paragraph [0063] to replace the numeral "8" in line 2 with the numeral "6," as requested by the Examiner.

Moving to the substantive claim rejections, in paragraphs 4 and 5 of the Official Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-5, 7-13, 18-20, 22, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Feinberg*. As discussed above, Applicant has canceled claim 1. Applicant has also amended claims 3-5, 7-12, 18-20, 22, and 26 by way of this Amendment, to depend from allowable claim 2. Each of those claims is believed to be in a condition for allowance.

In the remarks associated with the § 102(b) rejection of claim 13 over *Feinberg*, the Examiner commented that an

intersection "area" would not be linear. Applicant has cancelled claim 13 and reserves the right to file one or more continuation applications with claims to the subject matter of claim 13.

In paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Official Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 23-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feinberg. Applicant has amended claims 23-25 by way of this Amendment, to depend from allowable claim 2.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: December 15, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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